

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-05 OES-05

FEA-01 (ISO) W

----- 074843

R 111344Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6170

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BEIRUT 11419

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, LE

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY REPORTS INTERVIEWS WITH
SHAH AND WITH HUSAIN

1. SEPT 5 MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (POUCHED SEPT 8)
CARRIES TWO INTERVIEWS WHICH MAY BE OF ESPECIAL
INTEREST IN VIEW OF FORTHCOMING OPEC MEETING IN
VIENNA.

2. THE FIRST ARTICLE, "SHAH OF IRAN DISCUSSES OIL
DEVELOPMENT POLICY". SUMMARIZES INTERVIEW WHICH
ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN BEIRUT DAILY AL-ANWAR ON
SEPT 2 AND 4. SHAH DENIES THAT HE IS "A TOY
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IN THE AMERICANS' HAND" AND TAKES STANDARD LINE THAT

THERE MUST BE A BALANCE BETWEEN THE PRICES AT WHICH OPEC EXPORTS OIL AND THE PRICES WHICH OPEC MUST PAY FOR IMPORTS FROM THE ADVANCED WORLD. HE CONTENDS THAT IT IS NOT REASONABLE "TO ASK US WHO ARE STILL UNDER-DEVELOPED TO HELP FINANCE THE PROSPERITY OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD WITH OUR CAPITAL". COMMENTING ON IRAN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, HE SAYS THAT IRAN BOUGHT KRUPP NOT FOR THE FIRM'S PROFITS BUT FOR ITS TECHNOLOGY AND THAT IN 20 YEARS HE WANTS IRAN TO ACHIEVE THAT PRESENT STANDARD OF LIVING OF EUROPE.

3. THE SECOND ARTICLE, "IRAQ: SADDAM HUSAIN SAYS OIL PRICES MUST RISE", SUMMARIZES AN INTERVIEW WHICH ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN SEPT 6 PARIS MATCH. HUSAIN, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE IRAQI REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF IRAQ'S RULING BATH PARTY, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "THE PRICE OF OIL OUGHT TO BE REVISED ANNUALLY IN A BALANCED MANNER IN RELATION TO WORLD INFLATION RATE. IF INFLATION REACHES 3 PERCENT IT SHOULD FOLLOW IF IT IS 10 PERCENT IT SHOULD STILL FOLLOW". IN THE EVENT OF NEW CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL, HE SAYS THAT IRAQI POLICY WOULD BE THAT "ANY STATE WHICH TRIES TO HARM OUR NATIONAL (ARAB) OR REGIONAL (IRAQI) INTERESTS MUST EXPECT US TO SEEK A MEANS OF HARMING IT".
GODLEY

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